



NAEP Chapters Add to Members' Experience

By Gary Kelman, President



Chapters are the lifeblood of NAEP. They are where NAEP can best interact with its members. The

stronger our chapters are, the stronger NAEP is. NAEP's website (NAEP.org) lists the numerous state, regional and student chapters and offers links to the chapters with their own WebPages. You can see how our chapters offer both technical and social programs, newsletters and sponsorship of other activities such as environmental festivals. An organization can have publications, seminars, insurance programs, travel opportunities and other benefits, but the value that members receive from interaction with other members and leaders in their field cannot be measured in dollars.

NAEP's chapters are independent, non-profit corporations, usually with a tax status of 501(c)(3). This independence allows them to reflect their membership. They are not cookie cutter organizations. Traveling from

one to another you get a taste of the diversity of this nation, our vice president, Jim Roberts, is visiting all of our chapters during his tenure as vice president, so look out for him.

Aside from local flavor, our chapters vary as far as the amount of activity. Some are very active, offering monthly programs, annual conferences, newsletters, websites, etc. while others are not as active. Usually this depends on three factors: number of active members, the energy of the officers, and the money in the chapter's treasury. During the formation of the chapter, at least 10 NAEP members draft bylaws, form a Board of Directors, seek approval of the NAEP Board and incorporate. We have found that, depending on the individual interests of these initial 10 members, our local chapters specialize in the type of programs that they present as well as the types of environmental professionals that join them. For instance, the Pennsylvania chapter specializes in transportation-related activities.

The amount of interaction with the national NAEP Board also varies among chapters. All chapters have elected or appointed chapter
(Continued on Page 2) . .

Focus on the . . . Oklahoma State University Student Chapter

NAEP approved the request by the Society of Environmental Scientists at Oklahoma State University to form a student chapter of NAEP.

The faculty advisors for the student chapter are Dr. Art Stocker and Dr. Will Focht.

The chapter's student officers are:

Mike Langston - President
Matt Albright - Vice President
Ranbir Kang - Secretary
Byoungwoo Lee - Treasurer
Brook Disney - Graduate and Professional Student Government Association Representative
Cosmas Lungu - Board Member
Stella Machooka - Board Member

Welcome to the NAEP! We look forward to hearing about your activities . . .

Inside

News for Members	3
Chapter Notes	7
Conference Planning .	9
Upcoming Events	11

National Association of Environmental Professionals

30th Annual Conference April 16-19, 2005 Alexandria, VA

"Inspiring Global Environmental Standards and Ethical Practices"



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Continued) . . .

representatives to the national Board of Directors. Chapter reps attend quarterly board meetings and supply the national Board with the status of their chapters and report back to the chapters on national activities. This allows the national to assist local chapters when they need it. I have always said that unless the avenues of communication are kept open, we cannot help each other. The national can help the chapters with development of programs, dues collection, member tracking, networking and numerous other ways. A chapter that does not communicate with at least the national office is missing a lot.

Chapters cover different size areas of the country. The state of Texas has three separate NAEP chapters. Florida has one state chapter but eight "local" chapters or subchapters of the single state chapter. The Chesapeake Chapter includes Virginia, Maryland and Delaware and the Rocky Mountain Chapter includes six entire states. Some chapters have the minimum amount of members while some have several hundred. All of these factors influence the type and feel of the chapters. If NAEP members do business in several areas of the country and want to feel at home and in touch while traveling, they can join the applicable NAEP chapters with no limit.

Working with the state chapters, the national Board is in the

process of developing affiliation agreements with the chapters. The Agreements will clarify many of the questions that local chapters have on what services the national provides to the chapters as well as the obligations the local chapters have to the national organization. Affiliation with NAEP affords local chapters with an artery to national environmental issues and the prestige of that national connection. As NAEP grows over the years, this affiliation will become more and more valuable. Look for mention of the draft agreement in your local chapter newsletter. Needless to say, the agreement will be based on both national and local needs.

Each year we develop more and more chapters that can service our many NAEP members who are not currently in an area of the country with a local chapter. Just last year the national Board approved the applications of the Georgia, Rio Grande (New Mexico) and Arizona chapters.

Student chapters are another aspect of NAEP's chapter network. We have numerous chapters at colleges and universities across the country. Again, they vary in membership, specialty (some are engineering oriented, some are policy oriented, etc.), size and activity level. The national Board strongly believes that this is where our future lies and the importance of encouraging student chapters and, for that matter, student members, cannot be minimized. The key with student chapters is continuity of their sponsoring faculty

advisor. As we all know, students are transient and change all of the time, but keeping the advisor connected is our main concern. The national office tries to accomplish this through numerous mailings. Many of our chapters have chosen to have environmental professionals who are not NAEP members as members of their local chapter. From a national perspective, these non-NAEP members are not members of the NAEP affiliated chapter but are members of a parallel organization. They do not receive any benefits of being affiliated with the national organization. We have asked our chapters to try to encourage these "local only members" to join the national organization as we encourage our unaffiliated NAEP members to join our chapters. Having these local only members join the national will benefit NAEP as well as afford the local only members the greater opportunities of being in sink with national issues that affect all environmental professionals. As I stated, chapters are where
(Continued on Page 3)

***Happy New Year from
your NAEP Board!!!***



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***(Continued) . . .*

NAEP gets to show its stuff. We are a membership organization, unlike many other organizations which register environmental

professionals, but do not afford them membership benefits. This allows us to form closer relationships with our members than the non-membership organizations or even some of the larger membership organizations.

The national Board views our members as family and we hope that you also consider us so. If you support NAEP it is important that you support our chapters. This is important and vital for the future of NAEP.

News for Our Members***Indian Ocean Tsunami***

By now, we all know about the tragedy of unbelievable proportions that occurred the day after Christmas near Sumatra, Indonesia. Aside from the human and infrastructure tragedy, an immense environmental catastrophe occurred. NAEP would like to express its hope that all developed countries assist the 12 countries effected by sending environmental professionals to help restore the water and wastewater treatment facilities and the natural communities obliterated by this event. NAEP is putting together a list of environmental professionals available to go to this region to assist these countries; if you are interested, please e-mail the national office. We would like to document and publish stories of our members helping in the region as well. Please send them to office@naep.org. There is a website where you can register to volunteer your services. The web site address is:

<http://www.cidi.org/datain.htm>.

Don't forget to submit your nominees for the Presidents and National Environmental Excellence Awards!

The nomination deadline is February 15, 2005 . . .

Special NEPA Seminar at the upcoming NAEP Conference

Since the National Environmental Policy Acts (NEPA) was passed in 1969, staff from numerous federal agencies and their contractors have worked diligently to comply with many of the facets of NEPA. In the Council of Environmental Quality's (CEQ) document *The National Environmental Policy Act: A Study of Its Effectiveness After Twenty-five Year* CEQ noted that "Overall, what we found is that NEPA is a success...Despite these successes, however, NEPA's implementation at times has fallen short of its goals." In this 1997 report, CEQ renewed its commitment to "launch a major effort to improve the implementation of NEPA." One step that CEQ took was the development of a NEPA Task Force which reviewed current implementation practices. The Task Force released in September 2003 the document *Modernizing NEPA Implementation*, which outlines their suggestions for improving NEPA implementation.

So, do you wonder where NEPA has gone since then or where it is going in the future? Do you have questions about implementing NEPA that you would like to ask someone who is knowledgeable in the NEPA process and legalities? Well then, the NEPA Working

Group has the seminar for you. At the upcoming NAEP 30th Annual Conference, the NEPA Working Group has developed a couple sessions to answer these questions. Starting at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19, 2005, Horst Grezcmiel and Dinah Bear of CEQ, will present information on the past, present, and future of CEQ, and Nicholas Yost of Sonnenschein, Nath & Rosenthal LLP and former CEQ counsel will cover implementing NEPA. Also, included in this seminar will be a NEPA Law Round Table Session with Sharon Buccino from the Natural Resources Defense Council, Edward Kussy from the Federal Highway Administration, Steve Simpson from the Department of Interior, Jim Van Ness from the Department of Defense, and Lance Wood from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The round table session has been specifically designed to answer your questions on NEPA; all we need is your participation. So please plan to attend the NEPA Seminar on Tuesday afternoon and come prepared to ask your questions. We are sure it will be worth your time. If you have any questions regarding this session please contact Lynn McLeod at mcleod@battelle.org.





Correction: Definition of Environmental Professionals

In the Fall 2004 issue of E-news, the article on the EPA's definition of an environmental professional (part of its proposed "All Appropriate Inquiry" Rule) contained an error by omission. The article stated that an environmental professional must be one registered as a Professional Engineer or Professional Geologist and have a minimum 3 years of relevant experience. The article failed to mention that the proposal states that a person with a baccalaureate degree in a relevant discipline of engineering, environmental science or earth science with five years experience will be permitted to conduct all appropriate inquiries. Under the grandfather clause, a person with a baccalaureate degree and ten years of relevant experience will also be permitted to conduct all appropriate inquiries once the final rule is promulgated. Our thanks to J. Peyton Doub of Tetra Tech NUS for pointing out the omission.

Where in the World are Jim and Sylvia Roberts?

So far our Jim and Sylvia's travels have taken them to Oxford, Ohio (Miami University) Reading, PA, Washington DC, and Chicago, Ill. (de Paul University as well as to the Illinois chapter of NAEP) to speak to environmental professionals and lay public on



Pennsylvania Fall Foliage

ethics. "Winnie the Pooh and Ethics Too" has even been given at a synagogue in Bowie, Maryland (arranged by Helene Merkel)! The highlights for us have been the beautiful fall colors in Pennsylvania and the mountains of Virginia (we played hooky for a couple of days to enjoy Skyline Drive above the Shenandoah Valley) and some of the fantastic museums in Chicago. We also spent much of a day at the new National Museum of the American Indian in DC. It is very special. We were particularly impressed with the treatment of the way that our Native Americans lived in their environments. It was also a treat to eat Native American foods in the scramble-type cafeteria. For those of you planning to visit DC for the upcoming Annual Meeting, the museum should be on your todo list!

Jim and Sylvia want to give their thanks to Pete Clapham for arranging for them to be in Oxford and all around Ohio through the auspices of "OhioNet" closed circuit educational TV; to Joe Musil for arranging their presentation in Reading; Mark McBride (Metro Washington) and Brian Moyer (Chesapeake) for arranging our meeting in downtown DC, and Ron Deverman for arranging both the de Paul and Chicago meetings. They appreciate the efforts to get the Environmental Ethics message out - the meeting coordinators and the participants in each seminar.

Jim was asked to be a participant in an international workshop on Health Impact Assessment. The meeting was sponsored jointly by the National Institute of Health and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in Princeton, New

Jersey in early October. Jim was asked to participate because of his knowledge of environmental impact assessments. The objective of the workshop was to develop recommendations for including HIA in the United States. He will be one of the authors of the report and recommendations of the conference.



Jim Roberts(Right) with Andrew Dannenberg (Left), Associate Director for Science in the Division of Emergency and Health Services, NIH

Their journeys took them to Portland later in November and Tacoma in early December. In January they will be in Florida for at least three talks; in February they will be in Anchorage for three talks, and in March they will be in Texas for at least four more talks. Needless to say, Jim is taking his message on Environmental Ethics (and ethics in general!) on the road! This spring, they will be in North and South Carolina in April/May, and Phoenix, Albuquerque, Denver, and Salt Lake City in late May/June. They will "have" to take a look at the Grand Canyon and other sites as part of our travels ... it would be unethical to miss them. They will wrap up the speaking tour with travels to New England, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Hawaii in late 2005 and early 2006.

Remember that ethics are both personal and professional!

Jim and Sylvia Roberts



ABCEP Welcomes Ralph Edwards

The Academy of Board Certified Environmental Professionals welcomes Ralph Edwards as one of its newest members. Ralph has worked as a Director or Senior Manager in Environmental, Safety and Health over the past 24 years. He has been directly accountable for creating, influencing, negotiating and implementing ES&H programs for refining, pipeline and transit companies. He has broad expertise in managing issues of remediation, compliance, permitting, community relations and regulatory due diligence. He has a passion for developing and implementing management systems and interacting with regulatory agencies and non-governmental organizations. Ralph was Mobil Oil Corporations Western Region Environmental Manager from 1980 to 1990. During that time he chaired various WSPA committees, was an active participant with API, and was an industry advisor in the development of the State of California Underground Storage Tank Remediation manual. Ralph obtained his refining experience as Director, Environmental and External Affairs for Pacific Refining Company from 1990 to 1995, prior to moving on to Coastal Corporation as Director, Environmental and Regulatory Affairs. He worked for Enron Pipelines from 2001 to 2003 as Director, Health and Safety prior to moving to his current position. Ralph's academic background is in business and industrial management. For several years he was an instructor in the California Community College system. He holds a B.A. in Economics with a minor in Architecture, a M.B.A.,

and a M.S. in Environmental Studies from California State University Dominguez Hills.

Join ABCEP with End of 2005 Special

As ABCEP celebrates 25 years, it is reducing its application fee for all new candidates between now and the end of 2005. To be eligible, the candidate must pay the \$100 application fee before the end of the year and he/she will have one year to submit the completed application. Be recognized as a board certified Environmental Professional!

ABCEP's 2005 Annual Meeting

ABCEP's annual meeting will be held on Monday, April 18 in Alexandria, VA, in conjunction with the NAEP Annual Conference. On Tuesday, April 19th, ABCEP is hosting a special 90-minute seminar, in which members will discuss the benefits of certification -- contracts signed, fees reduced, and reputations saved.

Grant Money for Clean Boating Projects Available

Applications are now available for 2005 Clean Water Grants through the BoatU.S. Foundation. Grants of up to \$4,000 are available to small nonprofits to conduct clean boating education projects on topics like pumpout education, clean fueling, and litter prevention. The "focus topic" for 2005 is the prevention of aquatic nuisance species, but all clean boating education proposals will be considered. Applications must be emailed by midnight or mailed by February 1, 2005. To view previous grant projects or

download grant applications and guidelines, please visit <http://www.boatus.com/cleanwater/grants/>.

The BoatU.S. Foundation is a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit that creates education and outreach campaigns, researches issues and products, and helps boaters be safer and better stewards of the environment while boating.

University Of Maryland – School of Public Policy

Environmental Professionals working or residing in Washington, DC may be interested in enrolling in graduate courses in the University of Maryland's School of Public Policy Program in Washington, DC. Students may enroll in individuals courses, pursue a Certificate in Environmental Policy or Policy Analysis (4 courses), or earn a Master of Public Policy or Management degree (12-16 courses). Classes are held at EPA's Ariel Rios Bldg., 1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington DC.

Spring 2005 courses currently underway include:

- Environmental Policy
- Quantitative Aspects of Public Policy
- Finance

For more information contact, Karen Logan, School of Public Policy, University of Maryland, 301-405-8230 or visit their website at www.publicpolicy.umd.edu.

Access Amazon.Com through the NAEP web site to earn \$\$\$ for NAEP!

Use the Amazon.Com link on the NAEP home page



The Corps Environment Newsletter

Paste the hyperlink http://hq.environmental.usace.army.mil/Corps_Environment/current.htm in your browser window to access your copy of *The Corps Environment*, a quarterly newsletter published by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The hyperlink will connect you directly to a menu containing a link to each article. If you prefer to see the entire newsletter, you can access the current edition of the *The Corps Environment* by opening the appropriate portable document format (PDF) file. But if you choose to open the pdf version of the newsletter, you may experience a delay dependent upon the number of users attempting to download the file at the same time.

The North Carolina Natural Heritage Program

The North Carolina Natural Heritage Program (NHP) inventories, catalogues, and supports conservation of the rarest and the most outstanding elements of the natural diversity of our state. These elements of natural diversity include those plants and animals that are so rare or the natural communities which are so significant that they merit special consideration as land-use decisions are made.

The NHP provides natural area and



rare species information to consulting firms and other environmental professionals through their mapping and element occurrence forms. Consultants use this information for conservation planning and to facilitate the design and implementation of ecologically sound development projects. New pipeline corridors, roads, communication towers, municipal utility projects, and general conservation planning are excellent examples of projects where NHP information is useful.



Unfortunately information in the NHP database is not completely up-to-date. According to Ms. Linda Pearsall, Program Director, a significant data backlog exists. Consultants relying on the maps or the GIS layers may be unaware of important element occurrence information. Ms. Pearsall admits that this is an ongoing problem and funding to support additional hours of part-time staff will help bring the database up-to-date. The North Carolina Association of Environmental Professionals (NCAEP) has undertaken to raise \$30,000 to provide this support. The NHP will determine the species and regional update priorities.

The NCAEP is asking that environmental companies donate money to the effort. NCAEP will provide total matching funds of up to \$5,000. Donations will be recognized in NCAEP's newsletter and on its website. In addition, any firm or organization donating \$500 or more will be granted Corporate Member status in the NCAEP for 2005. See www.ncaep.org for Corporate Membership details. Personal donations of \$75 or more will receive 2005 NCAEP membership.



Please make your donations to NCAEP by February 15, 2005 with NHP on the memo line.

NCAEP
PO Box 17512
Raleigh, NC 27609

Please contact Eric Galamb at (919) 571-7111 or egalamb@yahoo.com with any questions.

Together we can make a difference!

Photograph sources: <http://plants.usda.gov> and <http://www.gssm.k12.sc.us/Biology/Dr.%20Bill's%20Photos/Birds/Woodpeckers/rc%20woodpecker.htm>



Chapter News.

Alaska

The Alaska Association of Environmental Professionals will host a week long conference along with many other players. The conference will be held February 7-11, 2005, in Anchorage AK. Jim Roberts will be speaking at our conference on February 8th on Environmental Ethics. NAEP is the sponsor of this event. For more information, go to <http://www.akforum.com>.

Illinois

The Illinois Association of Environmental Professionals and DePaul University's Public Policy Studies Program is sponsoring a presentation entitled "An Assessment of Environmental Protection in the Post-2004 Election World" on Thursday, February 3, 2005. The speaker will be Mr. Ray Clark, formerly a member of the White House Council on Environmental Quality under President Clinton and a Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army. He currently heads the Clark Group, LLC, which works on brownfields and other environmental policy issues.

For more information, please call 773 325-7715. RSVPs are required by January 28.

Michigan

The Michigan Association of Environmental Professionals (MAEP) honored James P. Shannon at their annual meeting on December 7, 2004 by presenting him with their "Outstanding Environmental Professional of the Year" Award. The award is given annually to an individual who has made a significant contribution to the

advancement of environmental education in MAEP and the community.

Mr. Shannon is currently serving the first year of a three-year term as the Michigan Chapter liaison to the National Association of Environmental Professionals. He served for six years on the MAEP board of directors and held the office of secretary for three years and president for two years. In addition to his service as an officer, for seven years he has also chaired the Association's major fund raising event which generates revenue for educational grant activities. Mr. Shannon is also on his second two-year term on the board of directors and vice-chair of the Michigan Environmental Laboratory Association.

A 1971 graduate of Penn State University, Mr. Shannon holds a degree in Industrial Engineering and is a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of Michigan. His career spans decades of involvement in the application of environmental equipment, consulting and laboratory management. He currently serves as Director of Sales and Marketing for RTI Laboratories in Livonia, Michigan.

MAEP Environmental Education Committee Chairperson and Board Member Diane O'Connell presented two Environmental Education Grants at the December 7, 2004 Annual Meeting. The Grants were accepted by Tom Green, Coordinator of the Bolles Harbor Mathematics and Science Center, and Kevin Kennedy, Johannesburg Lewiston High School. The grants were made

possible by proceeds from MAEP's 2004 Annual Golf Outing.

The Bolles Harbor Mathematics and Science Center received the grant for the Lake Erie Environmental Outreach Program. The Lake Erie Environmental Outreach Program includes the training and ongoing support for educators in the Monroe Public School District. The program provides a hands-on approach to the study of Lake Erie water quality, rivers, ponds, and aquifers. Teachers can then utilize the watershed curriculum in their classes.

Mr. Kennedy accepted the grant for the Black River Watershed Walk. Students take a week long field trip by canoe along the river corridor, and study and examine bank erosion, study and identify vegetation, and take several water quality samples. Natural resource professionals provide in-depth, water-related topics along the way. Students keep a scientific log during the trip and write an essay describing their experience. The Black River Watershed Walk provides a positive learning experience for the students and, hopefully, a greater appreciation of water resources.

The MAEP Environmental Education Committee is proud to honor these two projects. Both projects provide a great opportunity for young people to study, analyze and enjoy the environment. Congratulations to both the Lake Erie Environmental Program and the Black River Watershed Walk!



North Carolina

The North Carolina chapter continues to make its mark in the State of North Carolina. Along with a robust program that brings together university students with practicing environmental professionals, the NCAEP has undertaken a program to assist the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program update its data base of rare plants and animals and significant natural communities. See the article under the Member News section for more information.

North Texas

The North Texas Chapter, meeting in the Dallas area, hosted David Campbell to speak to the chapter at our December meeting. David's presentation dealt with the design and construction of "high performance" buildings, that is, those that score high on the LEEDS scoring system. Jerry Roehrig of Roehrig and Associates spoke on E4 – Environmental Quality at the January meeting.

The chapter is busy preparing for two major events. First, the NTAEP will host the national Board of Directors' quarterly board meeting, 21-22 January 2005. The meetings will be held at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers offices in the Lanham Federal Office Building in Fort Worth. The Board will have a chance to meet NTAEP members at a restaurant called "8.0", just off of Sundance Square in downtown Fort Worth on Friday evening, 5:30 pm until ???

The second event will be to host NAEP VP Jim Roberts for his environmental ethics seminar on March 21, 2005. The seminar will be co-hosted with the Fort Worth Post of the Society of American Military Engineers. The seminar will take place at Rawlings, a restaurant at AmeriQuest Field (home of the Texas Rangers baseball team) in Arlington. Please contact Bob Morris at 817 886-1515 for information on either event.

Texas

The Texas Association of Environmental Professionals, based in the Houston area, recently announced the results of their election for directors. The annual election of Directors of the TAEP Board was held at the end of the year for Directors terms beginning in January 2005. Joyce Kristiansson, Ralph Edwards, and George Freda were elected to 3 year terms. Ed Fiesinger and Richard McGucken will complete the terms of two current Board members who were no longer able to serve. Ralph, Ed, and Richard are new to the nine-member Board.

The Directors will choose Officers at the annual business meeting on January 20, 2005.

Visit our website at www.taep.org for news, events, programs, pictures, job and educational opportunities.

NAEP Board of Directors

President

Gary F. Kelman

Vice President

James Roberts

Treasurer

George Freda

Secretary

Joe Musil

Past President

Cynthia Fridgen

Elected Board Members

John Daugherty
David Full

Lisa Gossett
Edgar Latham
Richard McGucken

Jim Melton
Helene Merkel
Lucinda Low Swartz

ABCEP Chair

Audrey Binder

Certification Review Board

Robert Michaels

Environmental Practice

John Perkins

Conference Coordinator

Donna Carter

National Office

Sandi Worthman



Planning an NAEP Conference

Ever wonder how the annual National Association of Environmental Professionals conference is put on? Ever wonder how the conference committee decides what papers to accept and how you always seem to get to present the last paper in the last session on the last day? Wonder no more . . . here is a brief “behind the scenes” look at the preparation for the 2005 conference that will be held at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center Hotel, in Alexandria, VA, 17-21 April 2005.

Step 1: Identify the conference location. Your national board of directors makes a decision where to hold the conference about 2-4 years prior to the conference based on the recommendation of the Permanent Conference Committee chaired by Kara Downey of the Sierra Southwest Cooperative Services. The board primarily considers locations that can be supported by our local chapters. This provides local knowledge of the event venue, a source of volunteer support and an opportunity for the national organization to show support for the local chapter. By the way, the local chapters receive a percentage of any profits from the conference. NAEP holds its conference in the Washington, DC area each year after a Presidential election. This allows NAEP members to benefit from an opportunity to get near the seat of our national government after administration changes.

Step 2: Coordinate the facilities. Our conference planner, Donna Carter, identifies a particular hotel with the help of the local planning committee (usually members of the closest state chapter). Donna visits the hotel and works with the hotel staff to reserve meeting rooms, administrative areas, poster/exhibit space and meals. The national board also visits the hotel, in conjunction with a quarterly board meeting, about 6 months prior to the conference.

Step 3: Determine the conference schedule. The Technical Conference Chair, this year, John Irving of the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory and the Permanent Conference Committee have this down to a science. When you submit your abstract, John sends it to the appropriate track chair. The track chairs review the abstracts and place them into groups or sessions of complementary papers. When the PCC meets with the Board, the group reviews the number of sessions for each track and the papers in each session. The overall conference schedule may force some papers to be placed into a related track or to be designated for the poster sessions (if not already so designated). After the papers are grouped into sessions, track chairs then go to a master conference schedule worksheet and place “sticky notes” with the abstract numbers into the appropriate time slots on the schedule. The PCC uses the schedule worksheet to generate the final conference schedule. It should be noted that the NAEP philosophy is not to have concurrent sessions of the same track (as long as the conference remains at the current size). This allows someone that is interested in a particular field to attend all sessions related to his or her interest.



John Irving, Technical Chair of the Conference reviewing the list of submitted abstracts.

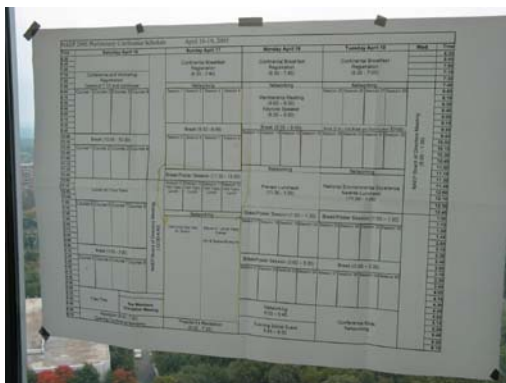
The Board and Conference Committee reviews the abstracts submitted to adjust the number of sessions.





The Board and Conference Committee reviewing abstracts of papers that need to be placed into alternate tracks.

Donna Carter, NAEP Conference Planner, discussing field trip options.



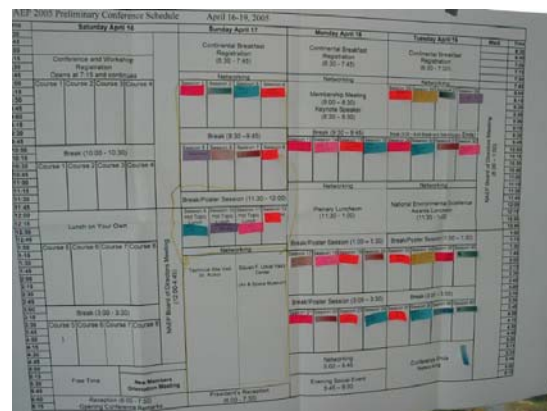
The conference schedule worksheet with blank spaces for the different tracks and sessions.

Track chairs placing their "stickies" of grouped papers into a time slot on the master schedule worksheet.



Donna Carter looks over the schedule as Cynthia Fridgen places a "sticky" on the schedule for the Training and Higher Education track.

The master schedule worksheet ready to be finalized.



If you have any ideas for a special feature in your E-news, please let the Editor know! I can be contacted at robert.morris@charter.net or by work telephone, 817 886-1515.



Upcoming Events

January 23-26, 2005. First International **Conference on Environmental Science and Technology**, New Orleans, LA. <http://www.aasci.org/conference>

January 27-29, 2005. 4th Annual **New Partners for Smart Growth** Conference: Building Safe, Healthy and Livable Communities, Miami Beach, FL.
<http://www.newpartners.org>

February 3-4, 2005. 5th National Conference on **Science, Policy and the Environment: Forecasting Environmental Changes**, Washington DC.
<http://www.ncseonline.org/NCSEconference/>

February 6-10, 2005. USDA-CSREES **National Water Quality Conference**, San Diego, California
<http://www.soil.ncsu.edu/swetc/waterconf/main.waterconferenc.htm>

March 16-20, 2004. Annual Meeting of the **American Society for Environmental History**, Houston, TX. <http://h-net.org/~environ/ASEH/conferences.html>

March 19-23, 2005. American Planning Association's 2005 **National Planning Conference**, San Francisco, CA. <http://www.planning.org/2005conference/>

April 16-19, 2005. 30th Annual **National Association of Environmental Professionals** Conference: Inspiring Global Environmental Standards and Ethical Practices, Alexandria, VA. <http://www.naep.org/CONFERENCE05/CFP.pdf>

April 18-21, 2005 (New Dates). **Environmental Banking & Beyond: 8th National Mitigation & Conservation Banking Conference**, Charlotte, NC.
<http://www.mitigationbankingconference.com>

May 3-4, 2005. 17th annual **EnviroExpo & Conference**, Boston, MA.
<http://events.zweigwhite.com/enviroexpo2005/>

July 25-29, 2005. **ESRI International User Conference**, San Diego, CA.
<http://www.esri.com/events/uc/>

October 20-23, 2005. **National Conference on Planning History**, Miami, FL.
<http://www.urban.uiuc.ued/sacrph/index.html>

If you know of other conferences or meetings that should be listed here, please send the information to the E-news Editor, Bob Morris, at Robert.Morris@charter.net. Thanks!



Presidents and National Environmental Excellence Awards . . .

Several years ago, the National Association of Environmental Professionals' Awards Committee launched a new Awards Program Initiative — the **Presidents and National Environmental Excellence Awards**. The primary goal of this initiative was to recognize the variety of existing accomplishments and excellence provided by the Environmental Management Practice, the NAEP working groups, committees, and membership representation, and the diverse disciplines represented in the professional environmental field. The NAEP National Environmental Excellence Award competition is not a membership oriented competition and is expressly created to consider nominations from all interested environmental professionals, their agencies, companies and so forth from across the country. Links to listings of past awardees are given [below](#).

The Presidents and National Environmental Excellence Awards will again be presented at our upcoming NAEP National Conference to be held this next year in the **Washington DC** area (Alexandria, Virginia ~ **April 2005**). These national awards fulfill the need of NAEP to holistically recognize nationally significant environmental achievements from across the country. Through this far-reaching endeavor, a new focus of recognition is offered for all significant contributions to environmental practice in the 21st Century. These awards are depicted in our new NAEP Awards Nomination Forms (see [Nomination Forms](#)).

The deadline for accepting nominations for the Presidents and Environmental Excellence Awards is **February 15, 2005**. Nominations will be ranked and winners selected by the Awards Committee in February-March. Award winners will be notified during the last week of March 2005. Awards and plaques will be presented at the 2005 NAEP National Conference in Alexandria, Virginia. Both 2005 Award winners and last year's (2004) Award recipients are encouraged to participate in our unique Awards Ceremony and Luncheon as well as our National Environmental Excellence Award Poster Session at the 2005 NAEP Conference. The NAEP [Awards Nomination Forms](#) can be printed from your web browser.

Five (5) copies of the nominations and supporting documentation must be sent to [Jim Melton](#), Chairman of NAEP National Environmental Excellence Awards Program at the address shown below by that date.

Jim Melton
Chairman, Awards Program
Maxim Technologies, Inc.
303 Irene Street
Helena, Montana 59601
